per the definition of sickness adopted by it. The latest data us available from the RBI since 1983 are shown below:

Pericd end ing	No. oI'. iick units	Annual outstanding (Rs. crores)
Decert'ber, 1983	80110	3101 -29
December, 1984	93252	3638-39
December, 1985	119606	4270 -93
June, 1986	130606	<663 -23

(c) To revive the sick industrial units in the country, the Government have taken various steps. The Reserve Bank of India have issued guidelines to the banks for strengthening the monitoring system and for arresting industrial sickness at an incipient stage so that corrective measures are taken in time. The banks have also been directed by the Reserve Bank of India to formulate rehabilitation packages for the revival of potentially viable units on merits of each case. In addition, Government have enacted a comprehensive legislation, namely "The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985" which provides for setting up of a quasi-judicial body designated as the 'Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction' (BIFR) to deal with the problems of sick industrial companies in an effective manner. The BIFR has become operational with effect from 15th May, 1987.

leserve Bank of India have also issued guidelines separately to the banks indicating parameters within which banks could grant reliefs and concessions for rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units without reference to RBI, both in the large nnd small scale sectors.

Surplus staff in public sector enterprises

872. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer the answer to Unstarred Question 567 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd March 1987 and state:

(a) how many of the surplus staff have been relieve from service under the 'Golden Handshake Scheme' from its introduction to date;

(b) the amount of money involved thwein; and

(c) whether Government propose to make an assessment of the number of surplus staff in the public sector units under this Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Retrenchment of Employees of N. P. C.C.

873. SHRI R. SAM AB ASI V A RAO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently the National Projects Construction Cor-portion had retrenched 500 employees;

(b) if so, what are the reasons that such a large number of employees have become surplus all of a sudden in the NPCC; and

(c) whether they have been paid all the retrenchment benefits as applicable to them under the rules ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI I SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) Owing to the closure/tapering of various I works and after keeping in view its man-i power requirements, the NPCC had offered alternate jobs in the security discipline to 570 workers. Out of them, 70 workmen have accepted the offer and have been aborbed. The remaining 500 workmen have been retrenched on payment of re-trenchment compensation and all benefits due to them.

Study on the working of the public under-takings

874. SHRI KALPNATH RAI:

SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made I of the working of the public undertakings